

at least six examples have been taken on the west coast of Ceylon, also during the monsoon months (INDIAN HANDBOOK 1:49).

The map distance between the points of ringing and recovery in this case is c. 4400 km.

The bird is at present in the private aviaries of the Maharaja of Jamnagar. It is still rather weak, and it is proposed to release it out at sea when it recovers, after marking it with the Society's ring.

PALI HILL, BANDRA,  
BOMBAY 50-AS,  
August 25, 1970.

RAUF ALI

#### 9. THE OCCURRENCE OF THE SANDERLING (*CALIDRIS ALBUS*) IN KERALA

The Sanderling does not so far seem to have been recorded from anywhere in Kerala State (see Sálím Ali BIRDS OF KERALA, 1969:126).

I am sending you one wing of a sanderling shot on Dharmadam beach (11°45'N., 75°30'E.) on 24th November, 1968. Unfortunately, the specimen could not be skinned or sexed.

This bird was with two others of the same species in the midst of a large flock of Sandplovers (most probably *Charadrius mongolus*), paddling in the receding waves and feeding busily. Even from a distance the little group of Sanderlings stood out, because of their strikingly pale coloration, in that large gathering of Sandplovers. In their feeding movements they were more active than the Sandplovers.

On our next visit to the beach (21-xii-68), we saw four Sanderlings, again in the midst of a very large flock of Sandplovers.

I found that the black shoulder-patch, mentioned in some books as an important field mark, did not show up at all when the birds ran about feeding. Only when they stretched their wings did the black patch become evident.

I am grateful to my friend and colleague, Sri N. P. Vijayaraghavan for shooting the Sanderling for closer scrutiny.

PRINCIPAL,  
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May 25, 1969.

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